

Evaluating Bulk Energy Storage to Relieve Transmission Congestion on the Island of Hawaii

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Background

- Award from DOE's State Energy Program Special Projects solicitation for FY 2002
- Partners
 - Hawaii Electric Light Company (HELCO)
 - Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
 - Sentech, Inc.





Purpose

Evaluate the potential of energy storage to alleviate transmission congestion and delay expansion of the transmission grid as DER and renewable generation capacity is added





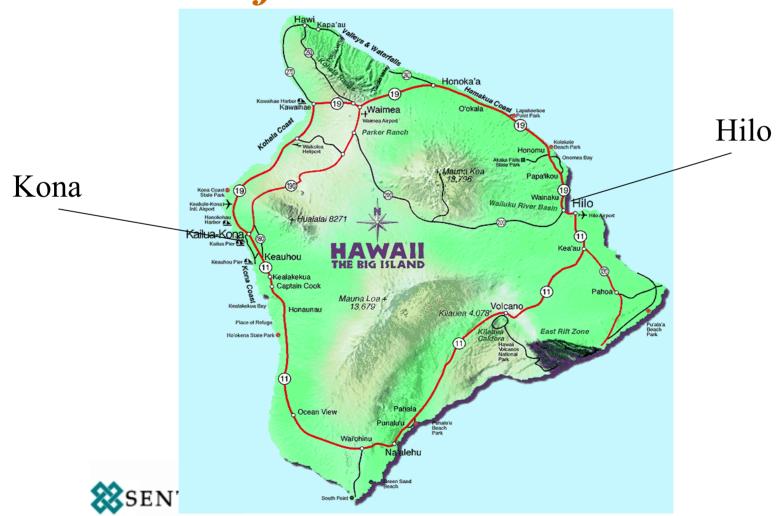
Big Island's Energy Situation

- Rapid load growth on Kona Coast not located near generation in Hilo area
- Transmission lines difficult to add for cost and aesthetic reasons
- Large load fluctuations strain the grid
 - Difficulty maintaining voltage and frequency
 - Large area control error
 - High losses





The Island of Hawaii



Task 1: Identify the Problems on Grid

- Identify existing power quality and transmission reliability problems
- Forecast electricity demand on island of Hawaii into next decade
- Project future power quality and transmission reliability problems
- Identify future electricity supply resources



Task 2: Identify Promising Technologies

- Assess commercially available bulk energy storage technologies
- Document cost and performance parameters for these technologies



Task 2: Identify Promising Technologies

- Technologies to be considered:
 - Regenesys
 - Sodium-Sulfur Battery
 - Nickel-Cadmium Battery
 - Vanadium-Redox Battery
 - Zinc-Bromine Battery
 - Lead-Acid Battery
 - Electrolyzer/Fuel Cell
 - Pumped Hydro





Task 3: Evaluate Impact of Technologies on the Grid

- Formulate realistic energy storage scenarios to be evaluated
- Model impact of energy storage scenarios on the HELCO grid using PSS/E and other modeling software



Task 4: Value Energy Storage

- Develop a business case for bulk energy storage on the Big Island
- Determine value of energy storage to HELCO based on scenarios developed
- Make recommendation regarding installation of bulk energy storage





Task 5: Project Increase in Renewables/DER with Energy Storage

- Energy storage could facilitate greater percentage of renewables and DER
- Estimate the additional nondispatchable renewable and DER assets that could be accommodated on the HELCO system





Project Impact

- Evaluate the cost and impact of energy storage technologies in commercial situations
- Analyze issues that will increasingly be faced by other utilities as DER penetration increases



